



Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

930 Custer Avenue W
Helena, MT 59620

May 15, 1998

TO: Governor's Office, Julie Lapeyre, Room 204, State Capitol, P.O. 200801, Helena, MT 59620-0801
Environmental Quality Council, Capitol Building, Room 106, P.O. Box 201704, Helena, MT 59620
Dept. Environmental Quality, Metcalf Building, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Director's Office
Wildlife Division
Enforcement Division
Legal Unit
Dennis Flath
FWP Commissioners
State Bulletin Board

MT Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office, POB 201202 Helena, MT 59620-1202
MT State Parks Association, P.O. Box 699, Billings, MT 59103
MT State Library, 1515 E. Sixth Ave., P.O. Box 201800, Helena, MT 59620
James Jensen, Montana Environmental Information Center, POB 1184, Helena, MT 59624
Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon Council, POB 595, Helena, MT 59624
George Ochenski, P.O. Box 689, Helena, MT 59624
Jerry DiMarco, P.O. Box 1571, Bozeman, MT 59771
Montana Wildlife Federation, P.O. Box 1175, Helena, MT 59624
Wayne Hurst, P.O. Box 728, Libby, MT 59923
Glen Hockett, 745 Doane Road, Bozeman, MT 59715
Lewis & Clark County Commissioners, Lewis & Clark County Courthouse, Helena, MT 59601

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The enclosed Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared for the Ranch & Home Supply Game Bird Farm. All of the pertinent or potential impacts of the project have been reviewed, discussed, and analyzed. Due to the minor nature and insignificant effects of the proposed action, this will be considered the final version of the environmental assessment. It is my decision to approve the Game Bird Farm as proposed.

Sincerely,

Michael Korn
Helena Area Coordinator

Lewis & Clark

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks

1420 E 6th Ave, PO Box 200701 Helena, MT 59620-0701
(406) 444-2452

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

Fur Farm, Game Bird Farm, Zoo/Menagerie, Shooting Preserve

PART 1. PROPOSED ACTION DESCRIPTION

Project Title: Ranch & Home Supply, Inc.

Application Date: April 21, 1998

Name, Address and Phone Number: John Sterling, Manager
3320 Dredge Drive, Helena, MT 59601

Project Location: 3320 Dredge Drive, Helena, MT

Description of Project:

Ranch & Home Supply, Inc. (Big R) has opened a new store in Helena, MT. The store plans to sell Ringnecked Pheasant and Chukar Partridge chicks. The store currently has no pheasant or partridge chicks on hand. It is anticipated that the average number of birds held at anyone time will be approximately 20 birds. Birds are shipped as day old chicks from suppliers in either Iowa or Idaho. Chicks will usually not be kept for more than 7 days before being sold. Birds will be held in the store in metal stack tanks with heat lamps.

Other groups or agencies contacted or which may have overlapping jurisdiction:

Department of Livestock

PART 2. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Table 1. Potential impact on physical environment.

Will the proposed action result in potential impacts to:	Unknown	Potentially Significant	Minor	None	Can Be Mitigated	Comments Below Or On Attached Pages
1. Unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources				X		
2. Terrestrial or aquatic life and/or habitats				X		
3. Introduction of new species into an area				X		
4. Vegetation cover, quantity & quality				X		
5. Water quality, quantity & distribution (surface or groundwater)				X		
6. Existing water right or reservation				X		
7. Geology & soil quality, stability & moisture				X		
8. Air quality or objectional odors				X		
9. Historical & archaeological sites				X		
10. Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air & energy				X		
11. Aesthetics				X		

Comments

(A description of potentially significant, or unknown, impacts and potential alternatives for mitigation must be provided.)

Day old chicks are shipped from suppliers in Iowa and Idaho and held in the store. Chicks are housed in metal stock tanks with sawdust/wood shaving litter and a heat lamp. Holding tanks are cleaned daily and litter is disposed of in domestic trash.

Table 2. Potential impacts on human environment .

Will the proposed action result in potential impacts to:	Unknown	Potentially Significant	Minor	None	Can Be Mitigated	Comments Below Or On Attached Pages
1. Social structures and cultural diversity				X		
2. Changes in existing public benefits provided by wildlife populations and/or habitat				X		
3. Local and state tax base and tax revenue				X		
4. Agricultural production				X		
5. Human health				X		
6. Quantity & distribution of community & personal income				X		
7. Access to & quality of recreational activities				X		
8. Locally adopted environmental plans & goals (ordinances)				X		
9. Distribution & density of population and housing				X		
10. Demands for government services				X		
11. Industrial and/or commercial activity				X		

Comments

(A description of potentially significant, or unknown, impacts and potential alternatives for mitigation must be provided as comments.)

The parent company, Ranch & Home Supply, Inc., Bozeman, MT, has an import license with the Montana Dept. of Livestock to import birds from out of state.

Does the proposed action involve potential risks or adverse effects which are uncertain but extremely harmful if they were to occur? **NO**

Does the proposed action have impacts that are individually minor, but cumulatively significant or potentially significant? **NO**

Description and analysis of reasonable alternatives (including the no action alternative) to the proposed action when alternatives are reasonably available and prudent to consider. Include a discussion of how the alternatives would be implemented: **NONE**

List proposed mitigative measures (stipulations) for license: **NONE**

Individuals or groups contributing to, or commenting on, this EA:

EA prepared by: Matt Murphy

Date Completed: April 22, 1998

PART 3. DECISION

Recommendation and justification concerning preparation of EIS:

Describe public involvement, if any: None

DECISION NOTICE

All of the pertinent or potential impacts of the project have been reviewed, discussed, and analyzed. Due to minor nature and insignificant effects of the proposed action, this will be considered the final version of the environmental assessment. It is my decision to approve the Game Bird Farm as proposed.

Recommendation for license approval:

<u>Joel R. Rasmussen</u>	<u>5-13-98</u>
Wildlife Manager	Date
<u>James Kropp</u>	<u>5-13-98</u>
Warden Captain	Date

Fee: \$25 _____

Rev. 1-1-84

Form FG-11a

STATE OF MONTANA

DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND PARKS

APPLICATION FOR GAME BIRD FARM LICENSE

(Not Applicable to Quail)

Name of Applicant Ranch & Home Supply Inc.

Address Helena MT 59601
City State Zip

If nonresident, name of resident agent _____

(Address) _____

Exact legal description of land on which the game bird farm is to be located

3320 Predee Dr.
Section Township Range County

Species of game birds Ringneck Pheasant Chucker Partridge

Name and address of the source of foundation stock Murray Mc Murray -

Webster City, Iowa Dudley Hatchery Callie, ID

Type of fencing stock tanks

Do you plan to sell live or processed birds? Live

4/21/98
(Date)

[Signature]
Applicant Signature

Scale 1" = _____

Large square represents _____ section(s)

R _____ N _____ R _____

Twp _____

W _____ E _____

Twp _____

S

Draw in location of game farm to scale on lands owned or leased by applicant. Fill in legal subdivision, Section number, Township and Range.

Give exact acreage contained within pen.